



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/517,182

12/07/2004

Hajime Maekawa

MAT-8637US

4367

23122 7590 04/28/2009  
RATNERPRESTIA  
P.O. BOX 980  
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482

EXAMINER

GORTAYO, DANGELINO N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2168

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/28/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/517,182	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MAEKAWA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> DANGELINO N. GORTAYO	<b>Art Unit</b> 2168	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. In the amendment filed on 2/17/2009, claims 12, 14, and 21 have been added.  
The currently pending claims considered below are Claims 12-24.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 12-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Wang (US Patent 7,349,967 B2, cited in the IDS filed 9/16/2008) in view of Drainville et al. (US Patent 6,785,724 B1)

**As per claim 12,** Wang teaches “An electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server device having operation screen information,” (see Abstract)

“comprising: an operation screen information storage part which stores operation screen information that is information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;” (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server

Art Unit: 2168

and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home network)

“an operation information transmission part which transmits the operation information at a request of the access device” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user) “the access device having a server identifier of the server device stored in advance and requesting a locator of the electronic device from the server device using the server identifier” (column 40 line 65 – column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35, wherein the remote device communicates with a manufacturer server acting as a home portal to determine the address of a gateway in a home network)

“the server device, responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device, transmitting the locator of the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device” (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, column 45 lines 26-43, column 45 line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14, column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a home portal contains information on remote access devices, including IP addresses, and communicates with a gateway device on a remote home network controlling the devices)

“a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation information from the access device,” (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a

Art Unit: 2168

gateway device in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

“and a device drive part which operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted.”

(column 49 line 14 – column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices in a home network)

Wang does not specifically teach that the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device.

Drainville teaches the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device (Figure 1, column 3 lines 41-50, column 4 line 61 - column 5 line 53, column 6 lines 13-30, column 7 line 37 - column 8 line 6, wherein a client retrieves and stores the IP address of a remote device from a tapping web server to communicate with said remote device directly)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of controlling an electronic device with a client device through information from a server device with Drainville's ability to allow a client device to communicate directly with a remote device once the dynamic address of the remote device is retrieved from a web server. This gives the user the ability to

Art Unit: 2168

communicate with a remote device even if the address of the remote device is not initially known by a client device. The motivation for doing so would be provide a network device direct, real-time access to a remote device through the Internet (column 1 lines 31-45).

**As per claim 13, Wang** teaches “a device operation information setting part which stores the device operation information accepted by the device operation information reception part,” (column 49 lines 14-45) “wherein the device drive part operates based on the device operation information stored by the device operation information setting part.” (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

**As per claim 14, Wang** teaches “An information processing method to be used in an electronic device configured to be used with an access device and a server device,” (see Abstract)

“comprising: an operation information transmission step of transmitting operation information that is information to operation of one of the electronic device, at a request;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

“a server identification storing step of storing a server identifier of the server device, in the access device;” (column 45 lines 44 – column 46 line 44, column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a remote access device communicates with a determined home portal to communicate with a gateway device of the home network)

“a locator requesting step of requesting a locator of the electronic device from the server device using the server identifier stored in the access device in advance;” (column 45 lines 43-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47 lines 23-44, wherein a remote access devices access transmits requests to a home portal via secure communication)

“the locator requesting step including, verify that the access device is permitted to access the electronic device,” (column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a login page is utilized by a gateway device to verify user permission)

“transmitting, by the server device the locator of the electronic device after the access device is verified to have access to the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device” (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, column 45 lines 26-43, column 45 line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14, wherein a home portal contains information on remote access devices, including IP addresses, and communicates with a gateway device on a remote home network controlling the devices)

“a device operation information reception step of accepting device operation information from the access device;” (column 47 lines 14-44, wherein a gateway device in a home network accepts input from a user through the GUI sent to a remote device)

“and a device drive step of operating based on the device operation information accepted at the device operation information reception step.” (column 49 line 14 –

Art Unit: 2168

column 50 line 14, wherein a gateway device is utilized to control and operate devices in a home network)

Wang does not specifically teach that the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device.

Drainville teaches the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device (Figure 1, column 3 lines 41-50, column 4 line 61 - column 5 line 53, column 6 lines 13-30, column 7 line 37 - column 8 line 6, wherein a client retrieves and stores the IP address of a remote device from a tapping web server to communicate with said remote device directly)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of controlling an electronic device with a client device through information from a server device with Drainville's ability to allow a client device to communicate directly with a remote device once the dynamic address of the remote device is retrieved from a web server. This gives the user the ability to communicate with a remote device even if the address of the remote device is not initially known by a client device. The motivation for doing so would be provide a network device direct, real-time access to a remote device through the Internet (column 1 lines 31-45).



**As per claim 15, Wang** teaches “a device operation information setting step of storing the device operation information accepted at the device operation information reception step,” (column 49 lines 14-45) “wherein an operation is carried out based on the device operation information stored at the device operation information setting step, at the device drive step.” (column 47 lines 22-44, column 48 lines 26-42)

**As per claim 16, Wang** teaches “the operation information storage part includes an operation screen storage part which stores operation screen information to configure a screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device;” (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15)

“the operation information transmission part includes the operation screen information transmission part which transmits the operation screen information at the request of the access device, the operation screen information is transmitted after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

“the device operation information reception part includes a device operation screen information reception part which accepts device operation screen information; and the device drive part operates based on the device operation information that the device operation screen information reception part has accepted.” (column 40 line 65 – column 41 line 15, column 46 lines 16-35)

**As per claim 17, Wang** teaches “the operation information transmission step includes transmitting operation screen information that is information to configure a

Art Unit: 2168

screen for operating one of the electronic device and another electronic device, at the request.” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43)

**As per claim 18, Wang** teaches “the server device stores a set of identifiers corresponding to access devices that are permitted to access the electronic device;” (column 52 lines 7-46)

“and the operation information is transmitted after the server matches an access device identifier sent by the access device to one of the stored identifiers of the set of stored identifiers.” (column 52 lines 7-46)

**As per claim 19, Wang** and Drainville are disclosed are per claim 12 above. Additionally, Drainville teaches “the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address.” (column 3 lines 26-40, column 5 lines 19-53, column 7 lines 37-56)

**As per claim 20, Wang** and Drainville are disclosed are per claim 14 above. Additionally, Drainville teaches “the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address.” (column 3 lines 26-40, column 5 lines 19-53, column 7 lines 37-56)

**As per claim 21, Wang** teaches “An information processing system” (see Abstract)

“comprising: an electronic device;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, gateway device)

“an access device capable of accessing the electronic device via a connection to a communication network, the access device operable to request a locator of the electronic device from a server device using a server identifier of the server device, the access device including a server device identifier storage part operable to store the server identifier of the server device,” (Figure 22 reference 1052, column 45 lines 27-57, column 46 lines 16-35, column 47 lines 65 - column 48 line 14, wherein a remote user utilizing a remote access device is identified and accesses the home network)

“wherein the electronic device includes: an operation storage part operable to store operation information including information to configure operation of the electronic device or another electronic device;” (column 34 lines 42-50, column 45 line 57 – column 46 line 15, wherein a gateway device connected to a manufacturer server and a remote user interface device can generate a GUI to control and operate electronic devices in a home network)

“and an operation information transmission part operable to transmit the operation information at a request of the access device;” (column 45 line 57 - column 46 line 15, column 46 lines 36-43, wherein the GUI generated by a gateway device is sent to an accessing remote device to be displayed to a remote user)

wherein the locator of the electronic device is transmitted by the server device responsive to the access device being permitted to access the electronic device such that the operation information is transmitted by the operation information transmission part after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device. (column 40 lines 2-19, column 42 lines 17-64, column 45 lines 26-43, column 45

Art Unit: 2168

line 58—column 46 line 35, column 48 lines 7-14, column 52 lines 7-46, wherein a home portal contains information on remote access devices, including IP addresses, and communicates with a gateway device on a remote home network controlling the devices)

Wang does not specifically teach that the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device.

Drainville teaches the operation information is transmitted to an access device after the access device receives the locator of the electronic device from the server device by the access device to the electronic device while bypassing the server device (Figure 1, column 3 lines 41-50, column 4 line 61 - column 5 line 53, column 6 lines 13-30, column 7 line 37 - column 8 line 6, wherein a client retrieves and stores the IP address of a remote device from a tapping web server to communicate with said remote device directly)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Wang's method of controlling an electronic device with a client device through information from a server device with Drainville's ability to allow a client device to communicate directly with a remote device once the dynamic address of the remote device is retrieved from a web server. This gives the user the ability to communicate with a remote device even if the address of the remote device is not initially known by a client device. The motivation for doing so would be provide a

Art Unit: 2168

network device direct, real-time access to a remote device through the Internet (column 1 lines 31-45).

**As per claim 22, Wang and Drainville are disclosed are per claim 21 above.**

Additionally, Drainville teaches “the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number.” (column 3 lines 26-40, column 5 lines 19-53, column 7 lines 37-56)

**As per claim 23, Wang and Drainville are disclosed are per claim 12 above.**

Additionally, Drainville teaches “the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number.” (column 3 lines 26-40, column 5 lines 19-53, column 7 lines 37-56)

**As per claim 24, Wang and Drainville are disclosed are per claim 14 above.**

Additionally, Drainville teaches “the locator of the electronic device includes a dynamically changing global Internet protocol (IP) address and a port number.” (column 3 lines 26-40, column 5 lines 19-53, column 7 lines 37-56)

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-24 based on USC 103(a) have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The prior art of Drainville is incorporated into the prior art of Wang to teach the limitations of the claim, particularly the ability of Drainville to directly control an remote electronic device with a

Art Unit: 2168

client device through information from a web server device, the information containing dynamic IP address information.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Saito et al. (US Patent 6,480,889 B1)

Keyes et al. (US Publication 2003/0041135 A1)

Yi (US Patent 6,813,715 B2)

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANGELINO N. GORTAYO whose telephone number is (571)272-7204. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2168

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dangelino N Gortayo/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2168

Dangelino N. Gortayo  
Examiner

/Tim T. Vo/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art  
Unit 2168

Tim T. Vo  
SPE